

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/712,033

Examiner

Barry J. Gooden Jr.

Applicant(s)

NICOT ET AL.

Art Unit

3616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/18/06 (Amendment).
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4,7 and 8.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 20061101.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Rhonda Barton on 11/6/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

From the Abstract, "**A suspension stop instrumented under deformation in order to measure forces**" has been removed.

From the Abstract, "Figure 1.", has been removed.

At page 1, of the Specification, above all other text, -- TITLE OF THE INVENTION -- has been added.

At page 1, of the Specification, below the preceding text, -- **A suspension stop instrumented under deformation in order to measure forces** --, has been added.

At page 1, of the Specification, below the preceding text, -- FIELD OF THE INVENTION --, has been added.

At page 1, of the Specification, line 3, -- DESCRIPTION OF RELATED ART --, has been added.

At page 2, of the Specification, line 19, -- BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --, has been added.

At page 3, of the Specification, line 11, -- DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION --, has been added.

3. The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: the cross-hatching will be altered for clarity purposes. In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

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Examiner has included a copy of suggested changes to the drawings and requests applicant submit new, formal drawings with careful attention to the proper labeling of the parts, such as the sensors, and the disclosed means of illustrating missing hatching.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

From the original drawings and specification it is apparent the top cup (6) extends circumferentially about the top race (1) and is engaged with the top race; however, due to the method of illustration, the drawings appear to indicate otherwise. Clearly the hatching for the top cup was omitted for illustrative purposes, as the device would not function without the engagement between the top cup and the top race. The device as claimed including the "at least one deformation sensor which is associated with the top race so as to measure the deformations of the top race", defines over the prior art.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

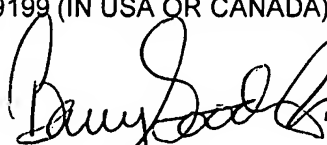
Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Barry J. Gooden Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-5135. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul N. Dickson can be reached on (571) 272-6669. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

 11/6/06
Barry J. Gooden Jr.
Examiner
Art Unit 3616

BJG


ERIC CULBRETH
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Approved
EC
11/7/06

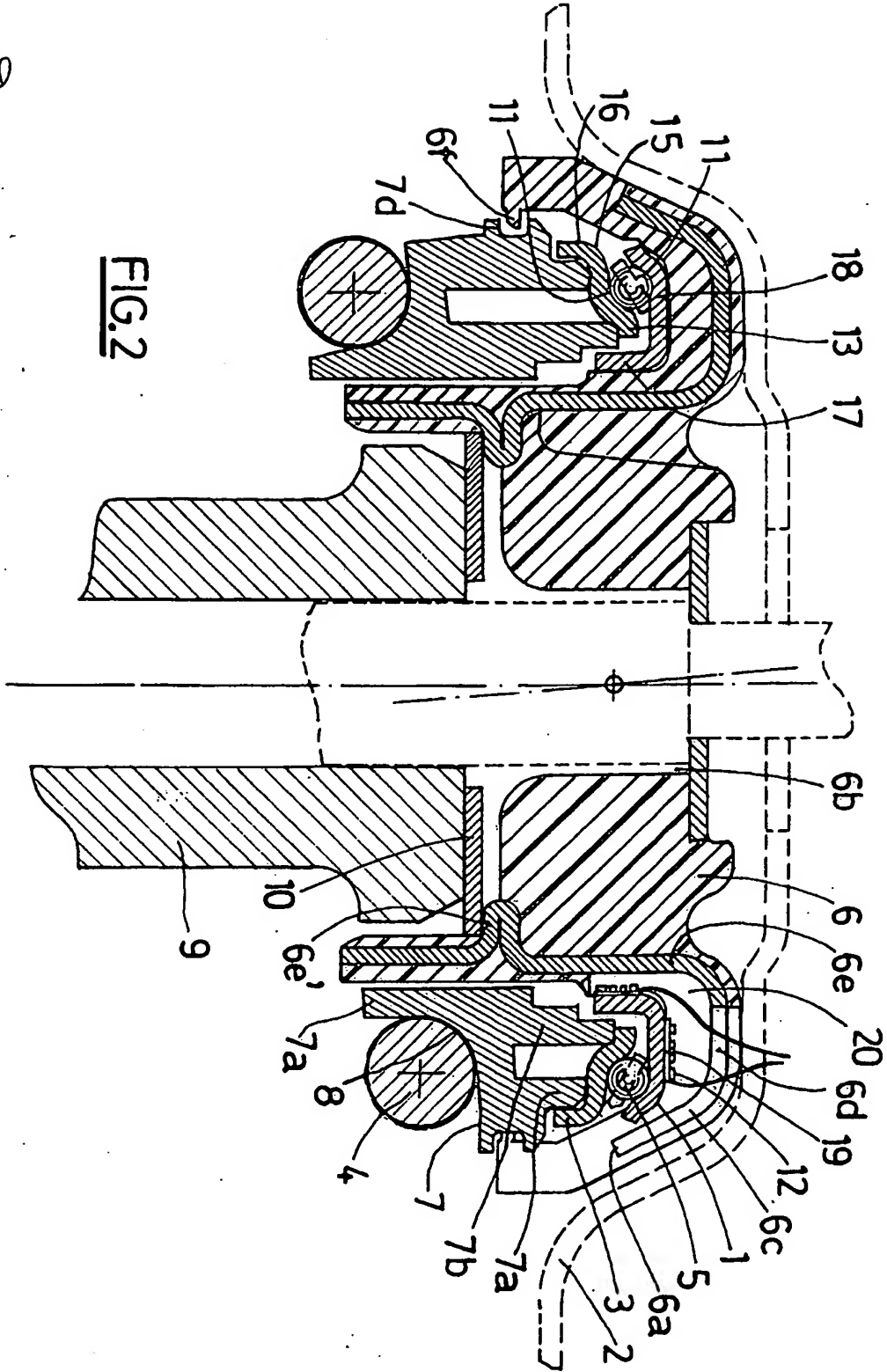


FIG. 2

Title: A Suspension Stop Insured Under
Deformation In Order to Measure Forces
Inventor: C. NICOT et al.
Application No. New application
Docket No. 021305-00197

